Week 01

English E/IIIA Course Introduction

Instructor: Scott Bingham

A: Course Intro

The main goal for this advanced reading course is to help students learn how to read, understand, and discuss advanced-level reading material. This material will come from a variety of authentic sources including newspaper articles, magazine articles, and short stories. Every week, the instructor will introduce different strategies to help students increase their reading skills. Following this introduction, students will be given time to complete activities designed to practice these strategies. Finally, students will form groups to discuss important themes and concepts that are introduced in the reading material. This discussion time is an important component of this class. Therefore, all students will be expected to actively participate in group discussions and must come prepared to share their opinions as best they can.
In order to help students gain important new vocabulary, they will also be expected to create a **Personal Dictionary (PD).** The PD will be a B5-size notebook in which students create a list of all the words and phrases they have learned in their reading. This is NOT a simple list of new words only, but a very special collection of useful words and expressions organized into a very special format. I will talk more about the PD next week.

If you miss a class, you need to go to the following website and download the prints for that week. I expect you to do this on you own before the next class.

- http://mmuenge.blogspot.com/

B: Class Materials

For this class you will need the following materials:

1. a good dictionary, if possible a good English/English Learner's Dictionary and English/Japanese Dictionary
2. 1 B5-size (40枚, 6mm) notebook for your Personal Dictionary
3. an A4-size folder to keep all your handouts
4. an enthusiastic spirit and willingness to actively participate in class discussions

C: Grading

Your final grade will be based on your effort in all course activities as outlined below.

Weekly Worksheets	40%
Personal Dictionary	40%
Final Exam	10%
In-class activities/participation	10%

D: Daily Schedule

1. Reading Skills Lesson (20-30 minutes)
   - teacher-led activities for improving reading skills
2. Reading Workshop (60-70 minutes)
   - time for students to work on daily worksheets, to read self-selected material, engage in group discussions, get feedback and/or help from instructor, etc.